(ii) Centre for Dental Education & Research

(iii) Jai Prakash Apex Trauma Centre

(c) and (d) There is no such proposal to set up branches of AIIMS in the different parts of the country. However, under "Pradhan Mantri Swasthya Suraksha Yojna" this Ministry has decided in principle to set up super speciality hospitals in six different States on the pattern of AIIMS, New Delhi, as under:

(i) Patna (Bihar)

(ii) Bhubaneswar (Orissa)

(iii) Bhopal (Madhya Pradesh)

(iv) Jodhpur (Rajasthan)

(v) Raipur (Chhattisgarh)

(vi) Rishikesh (Uttaranchal)

These hospitals including the one at Bhubaneswar are expected to be completed within three years.

Inhaler for Asthama Patients

1302. SHRI RAMA SHANKER KAUSHIK: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Asthalin Inhaler is treated to be under the Category of Asthalin reliever;

(b) if so, why Authorised Medical Attendants appointed by Government cannot prescribe it and a general physician of CGHS can prescribe it; and

(c) the details of any plans to include Asthalin Inhaler in the list of inexpensive drugs as it is life saving and not so expensive?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Since the basic drug is included in schedule II Appendix XVI of Central Services (Medical Attendance) Rules, 1944 which illustrates the

inadmissible expensive drugs etc., the Authorised Medical Attendant is not authorized to prescribe it.

(c) There is no such proposal under consideration of the Government.

AIDS vaccine

1303. PROF. M. SANKARALINGAM: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that India is on the verge of coming out with AIDS vaccine;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether Government have fixed any time-frame to market such a vaccine at affordable price?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. There are two HIV sub-type 'C' candidate AIDS vaccines which are under the process of development in India namely; (i) HIV-1 sub-type 'C' DNA vaccine being developed at the National HIV Reference Centre, Deptt. of Microbiology, All India Institute of Medical Sciences, New Delhi under the Prime Minister's 'Jai Vigyan' Mission Programme. The Department of Biotechnology, Ministry of Science & Technology, Government of India has funded this programme. The candidate vaccine has still to undergo pre-clinical toxicity testing in animals and (ii) Modified Vaccinia Ankara multi-epitope candidate vaccine has been developed under a tripartite agreement between Indian Council of Medical Research-National AIDS Control Organisation and International AIDS Vaccine Initiative, USA. The work is being carried out by National AIDS Research Instt., Pune. The pre-clinical trials are being carried out in a biotech company in the USA. The National AIDS Research Institute is making preparations for Phase-I clinical trials which will be conducted after toxicity and immunogenicity tests are completed and the regulatory approvals have been obtained.

(c) At this stage, no definite time frame for marketing ofAIDS vaccines can be spelt out.